



Model School Grant Frequently Asked Questions

Question 1: Is there a threshold for staff participation in the Model School Grant?

The grant application requires a commitment from the school community including but not limited to teachers, administrators, students, parents, school committee, union leadership and other key stakeholders. RIDE has not set a specific threshold number for school community commitment. The scoring guide indicates that leadership and capacity is a high priority area. Applicants that demonstrate a significant impact of the proposed innovation on the entire school population will be looked upon favorably. School community buy-in from all of the various stakeholders can be demonstrated in the project narrative and within Appendix B – Leadership and Capacity Commitment sheet.

Question 2: What are the options for staff participation?

The options for staff participation are up to the school to propose in the application and are not preconceived. Applicants that demonstrate a significant impact of the proposed innovation on the entire school population will be looked upon favorably. (See the above related question.)

Question 3: “Student need” can be interpreted many different ways. What specifically will grant readers be looking for in the area of student need and how is it scored?

Student need is considered in the scoring of proposals and can earn up to 20 points. Please see the scoring section on page 5 of the grant application. Grant readers will be considering free/reduced lunch information as well as demonstrated technology need. Applicants will be able to demonstrate student need in the background information as well as the project narrative sections of their proposals.

Question 4: Will grant applications designed to address the needs of a subgroup of students be entertained?

This grant opportunity is intended to provide access for **all** students in **all** subgroups within the school. The redesign of the educational environment should provide innovative learning opportunities that engage all students through a variety of blended learning models.



Question 5: Will grant applications that focus on the redesign of programs within a school be entertained?

The intent of the grant opportunity is to transform a *whole* school. Therefore, a whole school design will be looked upon favorably.

Question 6: When will the intensive summer occur?

The intensive summer training will occur during July 2012. The specific days and configuration will be determined with the selected school.

Question 7: Why has the deadline been extended?

RIDE is extending the Model School grant applications deadline to **4:00 PM Friday, April 27, 2012**. Originally we had planned to release a Request For Proposal (RFP) in January 2012 on behalf of the model school as well as other schools and entities interested in increasing student access to technology. The RFP will solicit an “all inclusive” vendor solution that will include devices with internet access, wireless infrastructure, technical support and maintenance, as well as professional development. We now anticipate Vendor responses to the RFP to be available at the beginning of April. Extending the deadline will allow applying schools to incorporate equipment and infrastructure needs with the budget portion of the grant application.

Question 8: Do the computing devices follow the student as the student moves to the next grade level?

During the two year grant period the computing devices must remain within the model school. The computing devices will follow students as they move up a grade level within the model school. Those students moving up a grade and exiting to another school must turn in their computers to be used by the incoming class.

Districts may opt to incorporate 1:1 computing as part of a larger technology plan. Local funds certainly may be used to purchase computing devices for the incoming grade, which allows for the exiting grade level to keep the computing devices. At the end of the two year grant period, districts may chose to have the computing devices travel with the student beyond the model school.